

contributed valuable comments to the *Record*. Upon hearing that I had recently been investigating the problem of Mrs. Glanville's identity and was about to publish a paper about her in the *Entomologist's Gazette*, he most graciously removed his own Glanville chapter from the typescript and presented it to me to use as I wished. During the afternoon he recalled much interesting information about his other books, such as the fact that due to wartime shortages less than one hundred copies of his scarcest entomological volume, *Talking of Moths* (Newtown, 1943) were printed, and that he had set much of the type with his own hands.

As it happened, I never again saw P. B. M. Allan personally; his illness thwarted several subsequently planned visits. We continued to correspond on topics ranging from our disagreement about the reason for captures of *podalirius* in England to his late advocacy of the old method of setting Lepidoptera on blocks wound with thread. When in January 1974 I was in London on a research trip, I was unable to reach Mr. Allan by telephone, and I sent a telegram requesting the pleasure of a visit, as I wished permission to dedicate my forthcoming book on the history of entomology to him. There was no reply, and until recently I was unaware of the reason; that P. B. M. Allan, in the words of his own "autobiography" (printed in the May/June *Record*) "went to earth" only a few weeks earlier.

The "Old Moth-Hunter", now "*box'd securely, lies relaxed at last*". To entomologists, his legacy is his charming and ably written volumes and papers on the British Lepidoptera. When I complimented him on his literary style, he insisted that Augustus Radcliffe Grote was much the better entomological writer in that regard. But P. B. M. A.'s readers will have to decide that for themselves; at any rate, his books and articles will continue to inspire investigators of both the subject and its history. The latter facet of his work must not be overlooked, for he was a pioneer in the recording of early aspects of British entomology. To workers in the evolving field of the history and bibliography of entomology, a phrase from his own epitaph has a double meaning which he did not imply but is yet relevant:

... ponder on the  
metamorphosis  
that awaits you.

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URESPHITA LIMBALIS D. & S.: POLYGONALIS SENS. AUCT. (LEP.: PYRALIDAE) IN 1974. — On 14th September, 1974 I took at m.v. light at Aldwick Bay, Sussex, a striking yet unfamiliar moth. I submitted it to Dr. J. D. Bradley who kindly identified it as this rare immigrant. —RONALD R. PICKERING, 4 St. Mary Abbots Terrace, Kensington, London, W14 8NX.